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Wednesday, August 10, 2016 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

NEIGHBORHOOD GUIDE

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Anna Gunn talks girl power and 'Equity.' 14

Birds extremely deep at TE. 22

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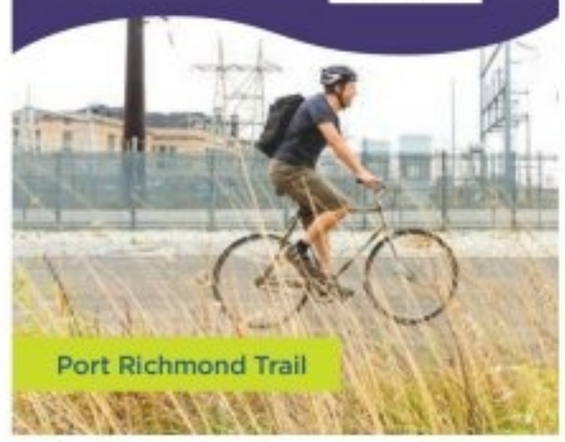

Port Richmond Trail

GROW WEST

Urban agriculture and community education nonprofit Greensgrow Farms establishes roots in West Philly. 2

ALEXIS SACHDEV

3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

DATA RECORDER FROM SUNKEN CARGO SHIP EL FARO RECOVERED

1 The data recorder from the cargo ship El Faro, which sank near the Bahamas during a Caribbean hurricane last October, has been recovered, offering possible answers about why the vessel went down, the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board said on Tuesday. The device, found late on Monday on the ocean floor after 10 months of searching, could provide navigational data and communications between crew members that could help determine what happened in the final hours before the 790-foot ship sank, officials said. REUTERS

US APPROVES $1.15B SALE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO SAUDI ARABIA

2 The State Department has approved the potential sale of more than 130 Abrams battle tanks, 20 armored recovery vehicles and other equipment, worth about $1.15 billion, to Saudi Arabia, the Pentagon said. The approval for land force equipment comes at a time when Saudi Arabia is leading a military coalition in support of Yemeni forces loyal to the exiled government of President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi who are trying to oust Iran-allied Houthi forces from the capital, Sanaa. The coalition's air strikes have come under criticism from rights groups for the deaths of civilians. The U.S. Defense Security Cooperation Agency, which oversees foreign arms sales, said that General Dynamics will be the principal contractor for the sale, adding it would contribute to U.S. national security by improving the security of a regional partner. REUTERS

US JUDGE UPHOLDS 14-YEAR SENTENCE FOR EX-ILLINOIS GOVERNOR

3 A federal judge on Tuesday upheld the 14-year prison sentence for ex-Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich despite his emotional plea for leniency after an appeals court set aside part of his public corruption conviction. U.S. District Court Judge James Zagel ruled Blagojevich must remain in a Colorado prison, siding with the demand by prosecutors that he serve out his original, full term through 2024. "I am sympathetic to ... how painful this situation is to them," Zagel said, referring to Blagojevich's family. "But as I said four years ago, the fault lies with the governor." Seeking a five-year sentence that would enable him to leave prison quickly, Blagojevich, 59, apologized for his wrongdoing and the way he "fought back" against the government. REUTERS

Greensgrow Farms readies for westward expansion in Philly

The urban farm makes a permanent move on Baltimore Avenue.

ALEXIS SACHDEV
@lexsachdev
alexis.sachdev@metro.us

Greensgrow has put down roots along Baltimore Avenue in West Philadelphia. ALEXIS SACHDEV

Greensgrow Farms is planting more permanent roots in West Philly.

Come Friday, the urban agriculture and community education nonprofit will open the gates to its new location, 5123 Baltimore Ave., ahead of its formal grand opening celebration on Sept. 8.

This week, Greensgrow closed its temporary West Philly spot down the street at 4912 Baltimore Ave., which it used for three years as a retail center and hub for gardening advice until the group could finalize its new lot.

To Ryan Kuck, project director for Greensgrow West and a 10-year veteran with the organization, the need for a permanent West Philly location came from the community's culture and history.

"In West Philly, [there's] a tremendous gardening community that's been out here for generations," Kuck, 35, said. "You have a lot of gardeners from the south who were gardening on vacant lots, and you have a lot of history being lost, from developers taking lots, seeing people age out, to seeing the transition over generations."

"There was an unmet need for helping these people that are already doing this work," said Kuck, adding that Greensgrow West's permanent location further down Baltimore Avenue will provide resources and aid in crossing a generational gap in knowledge.

Lee Baldwin, retail manager for Greensgrow West, said the move farther west will allow the nonprofit to perform more of the duties it's dedicated to.

"The day we moved into 4912 [Baltimore Ave.], it was too small for us. We knew that, and we were forced to be a very small garden center, when we really wanted to be an extension of Greensgrow proper," Baldwin said, referencing Greensgrow's flagship location in Kensington.

Baldwin said the team was constantly playing "plant tetris" at its first West Philly location, but with it's new location, which is about twice as large, the team will be able to focus on growing and providing resources to the community.

Ultimately, the hope is to engage with new community members and create a space where all feel welcome, a vision Greensgrow's late founder Mary Seton Corboy worked for up until her passing this weekend.

"[Mary's] essence was about this idea that everyone feels welcome, and everyone has something that they get from coming, that they appreciate," Kuck said. "This idea to make this something that invites a whole new group of people into the Greensgrow family was really exciting to her."

Expanding services

In addition to its plant and flower sales, Greensgrow West also plans to implement community education classes on the many facets of gardening, and will also run a chicken coop, after-school activities for children and will continue its SNAP Box program, a farmshare box that provides ACCESS Card recipients with five to eight produce items.

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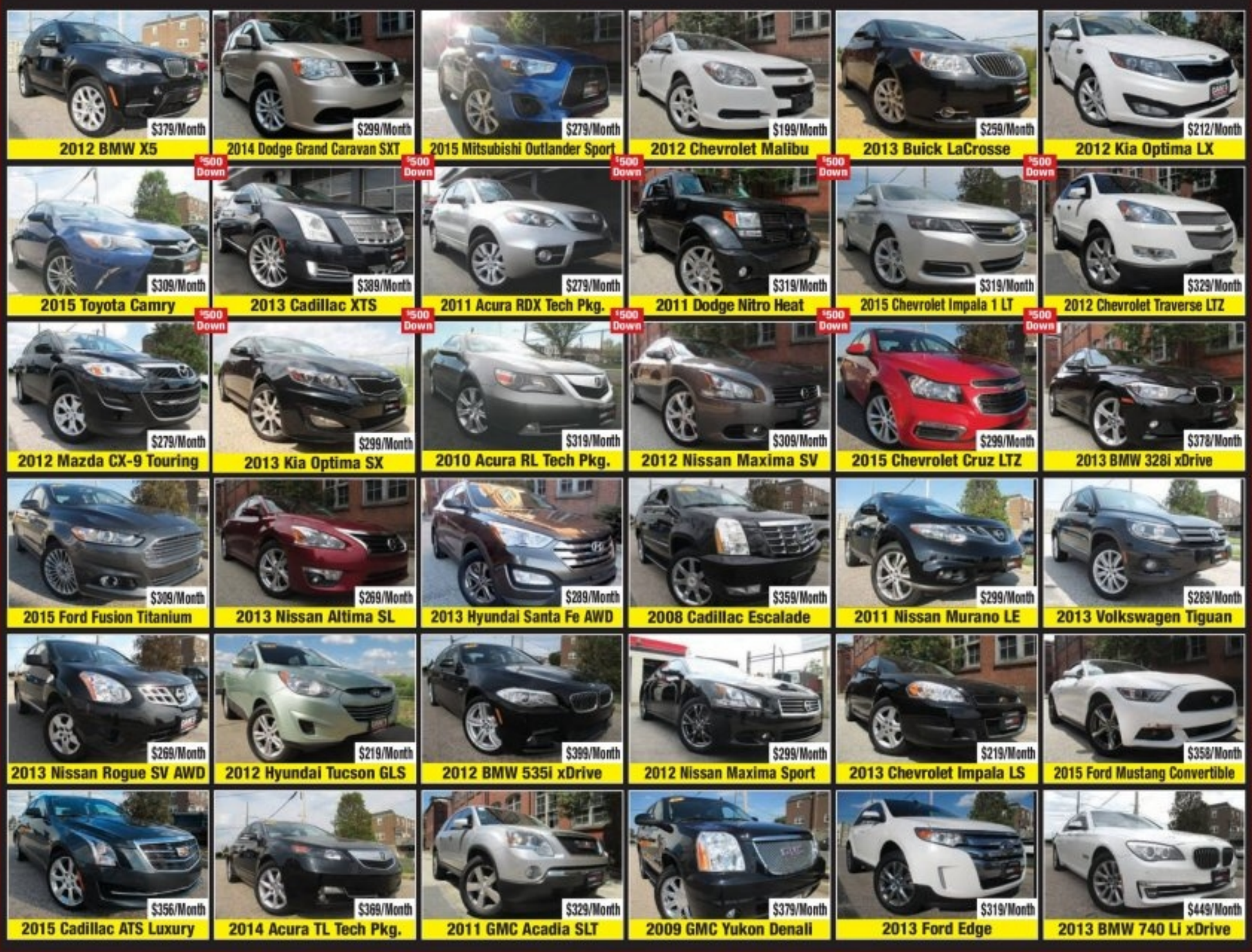

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The streets and skins of Philadelphia on exhibition. FILE PHOTO

The naked cyclists will ride again in Philly

Body paint, nudity, and bikes — what more could you ask for?

ARIELLE KAPLAN
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Strip down, bike riders — the annual Philly Naked Bike Ride is hitting the city's streets this September.

Thousands of riders will mount their bikes for this year's 8th annual PNBR on Sept. 10.

The 10-mile PNBR promotes fuel conscious consumption, positive body image, and cycling advocacy.

Don't have a bike but still want to participate in the event? Join the fun as an official body painter and help cover thousands of bodies with vibrant colors. You can also sign up to volunteer for "Day of Ride" to help make the eighth PNBR a success.

If you go

Philly Naked Bike Ride
5 p.m., Sept. 10
Pre-ride festivities begin at 3:30 p.m.
Philadelphianakedbikeride.wordpress.com/

Toddler killed in car crash in Kensington

Authorities are investigating a fatal car crash that killed a toddler in Kensington, and believe drag racing might be to blame.

Around 7:15 p.m., a speeding car slammed into the passenger side of the car carrying the toddler at Second and York streets. The 3-year-old girl was thrown through the back passenger window, CBS Philly reported.

"It appears the striking vehicle that was going south on Second Street, being operated by the 17-year-old male, may have been driving at a high rate of speed," Philadelphia Police Chief Inspector Scott Small told 6ABC. "Some witnesses are saying that 17-year-old driver was actually racing another vehicle."

The teen apparently struck the car with the toddler, which was traveling westbound on York Street. The girl's mother was driving, and her grandmother was a passenger in the Honda. According to 6ABC, their vehicle jumped the curb and hit a fire hydrant before the toddler was thrown from the window.

"When she was found on the sidewalk, she was not in a car seat. However, there is a car seat in the backseat of the vehicle," Small said.

The child was taken to St. Christopher's Hospital, where she was later pronounced dead.

The 17-year-old driver was transported to Temple University Hospital in stable condition. ALEXIS SACHDEV

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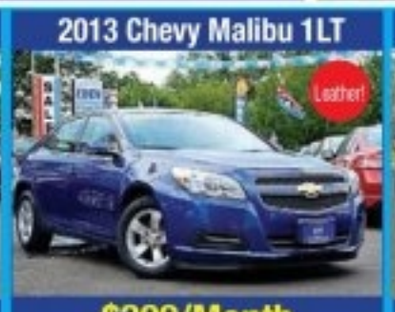

2013 Chevy Malibu 1LT — Leather! — $209/Month

2013 Kia Optima LX — Leather! — $209/Month

2014 Kia Sorento LX — 30K Miles! — $242/Month

2007 Ford F-150 XLT — Long Bed — $242/Month

2014 Chevy Volt Hybrid — 20K Miles! — $258/Month

2013 Honda CRV — 4X4 — $274/Month

2008 BMW 750 LI — Loaded! — $274/Month

2009 BMW 528xi — Sun Roof — $274/Month

2013 Chevy Malibu Eco — Hybrid! — $274/Month

2011 Cadillac SRX — Extremely Clean! — $290/Month

2008 Toyota Highlander — Leather — $290/Month

2015 Nissan Altima 2.5 SV — Like New! — $290/Month

2013 Nissan Murano — Pana Roof — $307/Month

2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee — Loaded! — $307/Month

2008 Mercedes-Benz GL-450 — Loaded! — $323/Month

2010 BMW X5 xDrive — Navigation — $323/Month

2014 Chevy Camaro — 30K Miles! — $323/Month

2013 BMW X1 Xdrive28i — Loaded! — $323/Month

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FEMALE CYCLISTS CAUGHT BETWEEN HARASSMENT AND BREAKING THE LAW

RANDY LOBOSSO

OPINION

Randy LoBosso is the communications manager at the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia. @RandyLoBosso

Leigh Goldenberg prides herself in following all the laws while riding her bike. The Passyunk Square resident calls herself a "typical law-abiding bicyclist" who sits at red lights and cautiously rolls through stop signs like any cyclist or driver in South Philly.

A communications professional in the city, the 34-year-old uses her bike a lot. She continued commuting by bicycle while pregnant and strapped a "Baby on Board" sign on the back of her bike to remind drivers to be considerate.

And that's when things turned sour.

"Instead of people being patient upon seeing my 'Baby on Board' sign or find it nice that I was gestating a human and still getting around on two wheels, I would get more honks and shouts than I was used to," Goldenberg says. "More than a handful of drivers told me that I shouldn't be biking at all or that I deserved to be hit or it was my choice what happened if I didn't get out of the road."

Now, she bikes with her daughter in a cargo seat. And the harassment hasn't stopped. In fact, in some cases, it's led her to break the law, often out of fear.

"You better believe if someone is verbally harassing me or laying on their horn that I'll run a light to get a head start," she continues. "The idea of a confrontation is pretty scary and I want to set a good example for fellow cyclists by not getting into shouting matches."

Bicycling is largely defensive. Ask any guy who regularly rides and he will tell you his techniques for staying visible on the street: For instance, if there aren't any cars coming toward you, it may feel safer to go through a red light and establish yourself to the motor vehicles on the next block. If there's no bike lane and you're sitting in vehicle traffic, getting a head start can be the difference between a frustrated driver honking at you to the next red light.

Ask a woman about any of these situations, the story is infinitely worse.

Women who ride face catcalls or worse. GETTY IMAGES

"Lots of people from the street yell at me," says Rebecca Fisher, an intern with Women Bike PHL, a Philly program that exists to both get more women on bikes and provide a space for women to talk about bicycling issues. "I might say stop signs are the worst because that's where I find people will yell at me — as I'm stopped at a stop sign."

Philadelphia has a larger proportion of female cyclists than the average U.S. city (32 percent in Philly versus 24 percent nationally), and with that, unfortunately, comes more on-bike harassment and catcalling than is seen in most cities.

It's a large reason why many female cyclists feel more comfortable breaking the law on their bikes.

"I find sitting at the light means the person next to you in a car will often say something to me, especially with open windows in the summer," continues Fisher.

"I'm more likely to run a yellow or red to avoid being still. Same with stop signs."

For Tanya Seaman, a Philadelphia cyclist, her defensive riding techniques are more heightened at night.

"If I'm riding at night, I feel safer going through an empty intersection than waiting around for a would-be attacker," she says. "Stopping and reaccelerating feels less safe than continuously moving forward."

Common sense tells us laws should always be obeyed unless the prospect of danger is so glaring that a prudent person would not have obeyed. And for many women, there are worse circumstances to consider than getting pulled over by a bike cop and fined.

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Out-of-control wildfire grows, forces closures

More than 900 firefighters were battling the so-called Pilot fire, which has charred some 7,500 acres of bone-dry tinder and brush in the San Bernardino Mountains since it broke out on Sunday.

The Pilot fire in the San Bernardino Mountains TWITTER/@ SANBERNARDINONF

A wildfire burning out of control in mountains and foothills east of Los Angeles mushroomed more than 50 percent overnight, forcing authorities to order three school districts to cancel classes due to heavy smoke and dangerous conditions.

"We feel it is in the best interest of safety that we keep our students and staff at home," the Silver Valley Unified School District, which oversees nine schools in Mojave Desert, said in a statement on its website.

Also closing campuses on Tuesday were the Apple Valley and Hesperia school districts in those high desert communities some 90 miles east of Los Angeles.

More than 5,000 homes were under evacuation orders from the Pilot fire, a highway and several roads were closed and smoke advisories were issued for the Mojave Desert area, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire).

No homes had been destroyed but Cal Fire said the blaze was only 6 percent contained as of Tuesday morning.

Some 400 miles to the north, the famed Highway 1 along the California coast was reopened to residents, one day after authorities were forced to close it in both directions due to the threat from the Soberanes fire.

That blaze, which erupted on July 22, has already blackened 67,000 acres in the Big Sur area, destroying 57 homes and 11 outbuildings. REUTERS

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Our ability to provide access to care is being threatened by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, which has terminated our Medicaid contracts at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children and Hahnemann University Hospital, effective August 1. This means both hospitals are out of network for all UnitedHealthcare Community Plan and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) members.

For the past several months, we have been working cooperatively with UnitedHealthcare to renew our current agreement. Despite making every effort to come to an agreement, including offers to significantly reduce rates for St. Christopher's Hospital for Children and Hahnemann University Hospital, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan refuses to come to a reasonable resolution. **Instead, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan has chosen to disrupt their own members' healthcare and terminate our contract, which not only hurts our ability to care for UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members, but sends a clear and disheartening statement to our community's most underserved population.**

We want nothing more than to reach an agreement with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan to ensure the most vulnerable among us are cared for, and we are continuing to work diligently to protect our patients by resolving this issue. However, it's critical that we remain true to our mission of caring for our patients and turn our attention to helping them get the care they need. There's no need for a single one of our most in-need citizens to go without care at the hospitals they know, trust and have easy access to.

We encourage UnitedHealthcare Community Plan members to switch to a Medicaid plan that includes St. Chris and Hahnemann. Information about the plans can be found by calling Pennsylvania Enrollment Services at (800) 440-3989 or visiting www.EnrollNow.net. New Jersey Medicaid members should call (800) 701-0710 or visit www.NJFamilyCare.org. In addition, it's important for all patients to know that they can visit St. Chris and Hahnemann for emergency care anytime.

We look forward to continuing to care for the health and well-being of our community and are grateful to our patients and our employees for their support as we fight to protect the care of our community and patients.

Sincerely,

J. Mark McLoone, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer
St. Christopher's Hospital for Children

Michael P. Halter, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer
Hahnemann University Hospital

St. Christopher's Hospital for Children

Hahnemann University HOSPITAL

Hillary Clinton GETTY IMAGES

Clinton extends lead over Trump to 7 points

The shift came as Trump struggled to reset his campaign following a stretch of controversies.

Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton's lead over Republican rival Donald Trump increased to more than 7 percentage points in a Reuters/Ipsos poll released on Tuesday, from less than 3 points on Thursday.

About 42 percent of likely voters favored Clinton and about 35 percent preferred Trump, according to the Aug. 4-8 online poll of 1,152 likely voters, which had a credibility interval of plus or minus 3 percentage points. The others would either pick another candidate, would not vote or "don't know/refused."

The results reflected a decline in support for Trump, rather than a boost for Clinton: In last Thursday's poll, 42 percent of likely voters favored Clinton and about 39 percent favored Trump.

Among registered voters over the same period, Clinton held a lead of nearly 13 percentage points, up from about 5 percentage points on Thursday, according to the poll.

The five-day survey concluded on a mixed day for the Trump campaign. After squabbles last week with party leaders and the parents of a Muslim American soldier killed in Iraq, Trump sought to turn the page with a speech outlining an economic platform of tax breaks and regulatory rollbacks. REUTERS

Trump flops with Silicon Valley donors; Clinton falls short, too

When Hewlett Packard Enterprise CEO Meg Whitman announced last week that she wouldn't vote for her party's presidential nominee, Donald Trump, she pledged to raise money for the Democratic candidate, Hillary Clinton, and to urge like-minded Republicans to follow suit.

She won't have to talk her fellow tech industry conservatives into spurning Trump: They already have. His campaign has pulled in less than 6 percent of what Republican nominee Mitt Romney had raised from tech donors by this point in the 2012 race.

But raising money for Clinton may prove difficult. While the Democrat has raised 25 times more than Trump from tech donors so far, she has drawn less than half of what President Barack Obama had raised from tech employees by this point four years ago, and less than Bernie Sanders, her opponent in the Democratic primary, collected before he left the race.

Tech industry employees — long a reliable source of presidential donations, especially for Democrats — have refused to open their wallets for Trump, and they've been stingier than usual with Clinton, too, according to an analysis performed for Reuters by Crowdpac, a nonpartisan political crowdfunding startup that analyzes campaign contribution data.

Donald Trump GETTY IMAGES

Trump and Clinton together reported having received $3.5 million from tech workers as of June 30, compared with $11 million donated to President Barack Obama and his Republican rival Mitt Romney through June 2012, according to the Crowdpac analysis. In 2008, more than $8.3 million in tech donations had gone to Obama and Sen. John McCain by June 30. REUTERS

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Trump underspends Clinton on TV ads, relying on social media

Adding the money laid out by outside groups supporting the candidates, the Clinton camp has spent $91M on ads versus $8M by Trump and his supporters, NBC News said.

Republican Donald Trump, a former reality TV star, has yet to spend a dime on television advertising for his White House campaign against Democratic rival Hillary Clinton, who has spent $52 million, NBC News said on Tuesday.

"Nearly $100 million has been spent on general-election TV advertisements in the presidential race since the primary season ended, but Donald Trump's campaign still hasn't spent a single cent on one of them," it said.

One group supporting Trump — the Rebuilding America Now PAC led by Florida Gov. Rick Scott — said it was rolling out an anti-Clinton ad on cable and local television stations in Ohio, Florida and North Carolina this week.

While the New York businessman has not bought ads on ABC, CBS or NBC, which aired his reality show "The Apprentice," he has successfully used social media to reach the masses.

He frequently posts to his Facebook page and on Twitter, and posts in turn are liked and shared countless times, earning Trump a free form of advertising.

A study by media analytics firm mediaQuant placing monetary values on social media mentions estimates Trump is benefiting from about $2 billion in free media so far. That figure is expected to rise to $5 billion by the Nov. 8 election.

REUTERS

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Photos suggest China built reinforced hangars on disputed islands

Satellite photographs taken in late July show China appears to have built reinforced aircraft hangars on its holdings in disputed South China Sea islands, a Washington-based research group said.

The hangars on Fiery Cross, Subi and Mischief reefs in the Spratly Islands have room for any fighter jet in the Chinese air force, the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) said in a report on the photographs.

The images have emerged about a month after an international court in The Hague ruled against China's claims in the resource-rich area, a decision rejected by Beijing. China claims most of the South China Sea, through which $5 trillion in ship-borne trade passes every year. The Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan and Brunei have overlapping claims.

DigitalGlobe imagery of the Subi Reef in the South China Sea, a part of the Spratly Islands group. PHOTO DIGITALGLOBE VIA GETTY IMAGES.

The United States has urged China and other claimants not to militarize their holdings in the South China Sea.

CSIS said that apart from a brief visit to Fiery Cross Reef by a military transport plane earlier in the year, "there is no evidence that Beijing has deployed military aircraft to these outposts."

The rapid construction of the hangars, however, "indicates that this is likely to change."

A U.S. defense official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said it was unlikely the hangers would be used for civilian purposes.

"It's not like the hangers are for mail planes, they are likely for jets," the official said.

The official added, however, that the Chinese move was seen as skirting around the line rather than crossing it, and there would be increased concern if China actually moved in military aircraft and started using a reef as a forward operating base.

China has repeatedly denied doing so and has in turn criticized U.S. patrols and exercises for ramping up tensions.

"China has indisputable sovereignty over the Spratly Islands and nearby waters," China's Defence Ministry said in a faxed response to a request for comment on Tuesday.

"China has said many times, construction on the Spratly Islands and reefs is multipurpose, mixed, and with the exception of necessary military defensive requirements, are more for serving all forms of civil needs."

The hangars all show signs of structural strengthening, CSIS said. The new images were first reported by the New York Times.

Other facilities including unidentified towers and hexagonal structures have also been built on the islets in recent months, CSIS said. REUTERS

BRIEF

Putin and Erdogan move toward repairing ties amid tension with West

Russia and Turkey took a big step toward normalizing relations, with their leaders announcing an acceleration in trade and energy ties at a time when both countries have troubled economies and strains with the West.

President Vladimir Putin received his Turkish counterpart Tayyip Erdogan in a Tsarist-era palace outside his home city of St. Petersburg. It was Erdogan's first foreign trip since last month's failed military coup, which left Turkey's relationship with the U.S. and Europe badly damaged.

The visit is being closely watched in the West, where some fear both men, powerful leaders ill-disposed to dissent, might use their rapprochement to exert pressure on Washington and the European Union and stir tensions within NATO, the military alliance of which Turkey is a member.

Putin said Moscow would gradually phase out sanctions against Ankara, imposed after the Turks shot down a Russian fighter jet near the Syrian border nine months ago, and that bringing ties to their precrisis level was the priority. REUTERS

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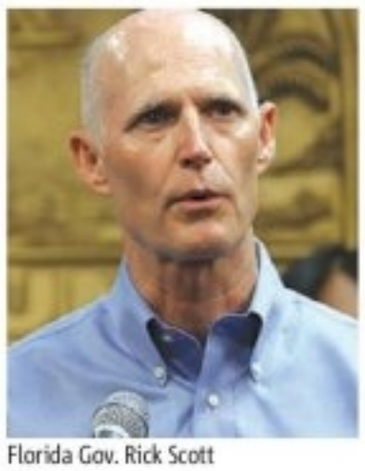
Florida has four new locally transmitted Zika cases, Congress must act on funds

Florida has four new cases of people likely infected with Zika virus through mosquito bites in Miami, Gov. Rick Scott said on Tuesday, as he urged Congress to reconvene and approve additional money to combat the virus.

The additional cases are all in a one-square-mile area in Miami-Dade County that includes Miami's Wynwood district, Scott said, bringing the total of locally transmitted cases in the state to 21.

"Every day that passes that Congress and the president fail to come to an agreement hinders our national response to Zika," Scott said in a statement. "The federal government must stop playing politics and Congress needs to immediately come back to session to resolve this."

REUTERS



Florida Gov. Rick Scott

GETTY IMAGES

"Every day that passes that Congress and the president fail to come to an agreement hinders our national response to Zika."

Gov. Rick Scott

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Leslie Jones is going to the Olympics!

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

the word

After all the hullabaloo over the Rio Olympics being a possible apocalyptic death trap, with polluted water and potential muggings, they've been going pretty smoothly. Even better: Now they're getting Leslie Jones! The "Saturday Night Live" goddess and "Ghostbusters" scene-stealer turns out to be a massive Olympics nerd. She's even repurposed her Twitter feed away from battling racist trolls angry that she's in one of the summer's big movie reboots. Now it's entirely about videos of Olympic might paired with all-caps glee. Her outpouring was so intense that NBC has scooped her up. Later in the week she'll be down in Brazil, joining the on-air hosts in gushing about all the athletic prowess in Rio. That's good for NBC, too: Its coverage tends toward blandly inspirational stories of triumphs of the human spirit and that jazz. It needs someone like Leslie Jones to keep us awake when all it is is tennis matches.

Seth Rogen not totally mad, but still kind of mad at Katherine Heigl

"Sausage Party" star Seth Rogen went on Howard Stern this week to discuss his new film … and some of his old ones. In the course of the conversation, he unearthed the feud between himself and "Knocked Up" co-star Katherine Heigl.

"I thought she hated us," Rogen says of that "awkward" encounter between the two that Heigl described on the show months earlier. "Like, we made a movie, I was very proud of it. It was critically well-received and, financially, it's probably still my most successful movie. And then we just heard she didn't like it and she didn't have a good experience making it — as someone who was an egomaniac, I thought, 'Oh, she must f—g hate me.'"

Following the release of Judd Apatow's 2007 comedy, Heigl told Vanity Fair that she felt the movie was "a little sexist," saying "it paints the men as lovable, goofy, fun-loving guys… [while] I'm playing such a bitch." She went on to say she "loved "98 percent" of the experience, but found it hard to enjoy the movie.

Rogen clearly took her words to heart, noting the comments left his "trust feel[ing] very betrayed," and emphasizing his "open process" filmmaking, during which Heigl could have voiced an opinion on at any time.

Regardless, he'd still kick it with her again. "I would make a dozen movies with her," he said. "I would be whatever the s—ty version of Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan is. We had a great dynamic."

*NSYNC reunion klaxon! Dare we hope for more?

If there's ever a time when our hearts don't skip a beat at the sight of Justin, JC, Joey, Lance and Chris in the same photo, it'll be when we've stopped pop-and-locking forever.

The *NSYNC members reunited last night to celebrate JC Chasez turning 40 — and can we just take a moment to say, taking the last 14 years off being in a boy band has been good to them?

Yes, that was a not-so-subtle hint that maybe it's time to throw together a little something-something?

They proved they still had their old moves during the 2013 VMAs. And at this point, every pop group that defined the '90s has made the rounds on a reunion tour: NKOTB, 98 Degrees, Sugar Ray, Third Eye Blind, O-Town and that other major boy band you don't mention in the presence of *NSYNC fans.

There's even a perfect occasion coming up: the 20th anniversary of their first single, "I Want You Back," which came out in October 1996. Or next June, when *NSYNC get their star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Or whenever, we've got a conference room if they just need some rehearsal space. Bottom line is, we want you back.

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Tracy Morgan's second chance

The comedian says he feels "sharper" than ever. GETTY IMAGES

With a fresh start, the comedian won't hold back his humor.

LUKE O'NEIL
@lukeoneil47
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Tracy Morgan is a national treasure. If it wasn't always obvious, we were given a reminder last October when the "Saturday Night Live" veteran returned to its hallowed stage for an appearance many thought might never happen. A little over a year before then, Morgan had been involved in a horrific car cash, which took the life of one of his friends and left him terribly injured. But, in returning to "SNL" after a long recovery, it was clear that you can knock a man down, but you can't take away his funny.

Did you find there was a learning curve getting back into doing comedy?
I just had to wipe the rust off; my comedic instincts were still there [and] my timing was still there. I felt sharper, mentally, emotionally, spiritually — all of the things that go into being funny. It was like, I went to heaven, and I sharpened my sword with the kings of comedy. It was awesome.

Are you doing new material?
I'm not concerned with new material. Funny is still new. That was the gift that God gave me — the funny. The gift that God gave me wasn't the material; the gift that God gave me was the funny. Material is the world that we live in, and you have to inject your funny into it.

Speaking of that, the world isn't a very funny place right now. Do you have any thoughts on that?
I leave it all in God's hands. It's a sad thing and the country's grieving like 9/11, but this is all part of the plan. It has to be.

You don't do political stuff too much, but is it that something you touch on stage now?
No, I leave that to the politicians. I stay funny. There's nothing funny about what just happened in the country. I let the politicians deal with it. They started all this mess.

You just did a film with Ed Helms — what was that like? Are you finished filming?
We just finished it and it was beautiful. Ed Helms and the director, Dito [Montiel], those are my brothers in comedy. Everyone in that film was awesome. I hope you enjoy it, and laugh … and cry. I hope you have the emotions Jimmy Valvano said: laughing, and cry, all in one day. That's a hell of a day.

When talking about things we can all relate to, what types of things do you mean?
Pain, the laughter, the actions, everyday life, the struggle … the struggle, with life. The human character. I talk about the human condition.

Have you changed the way you approach life?
No, [I keep] injecting my humor into it. I never take it for granted, and any opportunity I have to make [people] laugh, I'll continue.

Do you feel like you've been given a second chance?
Yeah, God [gave me one]. The doctors gave me less than 2 percent chance of living, but God gave me a second chance to live.

Have you always been spiritual?
Always. My dad instilled it in me. I see no reason not to be.

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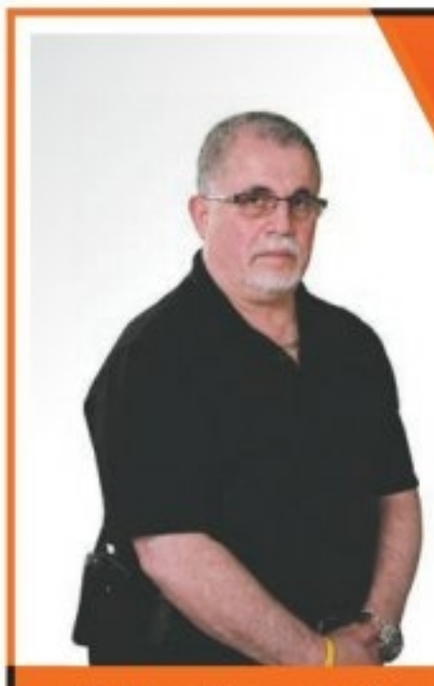

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Anna Gunn takes charge

Anna Gunn plays an investment banker trying to protect her client in "Equity," in theaters Friday. SONY PICTURES CLASSICS; GETTY IMAGES

The actress talks about "Equity" and the hurdles women in power face.

MATT PRIGGE
@mattprigge
matt.prigge@metro.us

It's hard to believe "Equity" is not only Anna Gunn's first starring role since "Breaking Bad" ended, but her first starring role ever. The actress, 47, spent five seasons as Skyler, wife of chemistry teacher-turned-drug lord Walter White, on the monster hit AMC show. She bided her time looking for her big follow-up, until "Equity" offered a character of equal complexity: Naomi Bishop, an investment banker on Wall Street who tries to protect her latest client from a complicated scheme to undo their hard work.

Were you feeling particularly picky about what you did after "Breaking Bad"?

Absolutely. I felt I had been on such an extraordinary journey with extraordinary material. It opened a lot of doors; I wanted to make sure I walked through the right ones. I'd never come across a role this rich and complex, and where the character was at the forefront of the story. And the creators and conceivers were these two women. The director was a woman, the writer was a woman. It's obviously a very unusual situation, and long past due.

The film says a lot about what it's like to be a woman in power today.

I agree. In the research process — which I always say is one of my favorite parts about acting — I got to talk to Barbara Byrne, who is on Wall Street and is one of the film's investors. She gave me a wealth of information. One of the things she said is when you're a known commodity on Wall Street, you feel your gender more. Any time there's been something on the news [about her], she walks into the office and there's a sea of men. She thinks, "Are they talking about me? Is this going to put me in a bad position?" But she's a confident woman.

There's a parallel there with Hillary Clinton. There's so much negativity and criticism of her, but then you see how much she's done. People focus more on the negative side than the positive.

They certainly do. That's something women experience across the board in every profession. We're seeing [Clinton's] qualifications, her intellect, her policies, her track record. But everyone thinks, "Let's not focus on that, let's focus on the way she dresses or wears her hair." That's something Barbara said women have to think about a lot more than men. She picks out the color of her suit depending on the client she's dealing with. Maybe they're dealing with someone who prefers a pink suit. On another day you might need to wear that red power dress. That's something that doesn't come into play with men. People aren't tweeting and blogging about men's choice of suits the next day. [Laughs]

There's still a lot of pushback from certain types, who are hopefully the last bastions of a dying culture.

I certainly have seen that, from playing Skyler. [Laughs] That's why I wrote that op-ed [in The New York Times, about people voicing their hate of Skyler], because I'd been asked about it a million times and I had tried to be diplomatic about it. Eventually I wanted to say what I wanted to say. I felt it was important, because I have two daughters and I want them to know that when they grow up and go on their way that if they have something to say they should say it. Don't let anyone push you back. Keep moving forward with your goals.

You're not still getting angry messages from people watching "Breaking Bad," I hope.

No. I learned my lesson, which is you don't read that stuff. And by the way, no one ever came up to me and said the things they said on the internet. [Laughs]

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No, critics didn't want to hate 'Suicide Squad'

Geek Girl in Hollywood

JENNA BUSCH
legionofleia.com

Audiences flocked to see Margot Robbie's Harley Quinn in "Suicide Squad," but critics were not impressed. WARNER BROS. PICTURES

This week I want to talk about a little something called "Suicide Squad." I don't know who you are, but I'm guessing you had a strong reaction to seeing those words. Maybe you signed the petition to shut down Rotten Tomatoes because their aggregate of the reviews for the film don't give it a high score. Maybe you read original "Suicide Squad" comic creator John Ostrander's comments about how critics came in prepared to hate the movie. As someone who reviews films, whether in writing or on my podcast, let me clear something up: No one wants to hate a movie. I want to be pleasantly surprised when I go in. I'm not only willing to love it, despite what many of my colleagues said, I'm hoping that I do!

Just so you know, I purposely did not see the film before I wrote this. I'm going this week. What I want fans to understand is that, while some critics may not love comic-book movies, most of the critics I know (and that is a lot of people) do. Those who don't might not get some of the deep dive comic nods or feel the connection to Harley Quinn that fans do. But we still review based on the quality of the film. It's one thing to have a few bad reviews from a few reviewers who didn't get it. When a large portion of the critical population doesn't like something, there may be a kernel of truth in there. That, however doesn't mean it's awful or you aren't going to like it. Hell, I love Harley, the cast is amazing and, despite the reviews I read, I'm still excited to watch it!

As critics, most of us don't mind having an unpopular opinion, and because we are giving our opinions, we know that not everyone is going to agree. (My very first death threat came from a negative review of "Avatar." FYI, the death threat and numerous horrible comments were from people who hadn't seen the film since it wasn't out yet. On top of that, I gave it a seven out of 10.) I know this is part of my job. Hell, I've given good reviews to rom-coms, and I hate them. Hate. Them. That doesn't mean I'm going to review it negatively. We're looking at the quality of the film, not whether or not it's our very favorite subject for a movie.

Most of the critics I know are DC fans. I'm one of the biggest DC fans out there! All my Underoos were DC. I didn't like "Batman v. Superman" at all, but that wasn't the plan going in. I would have loved to walk out happy. This does not mean you can't love it. I may hate "Suicide Squad." I may love it. It's fine if you disagree, but maybe let the anger at other opinions go. A petition, guys? Seriously? Sigh.

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Kawaii Kitty Cafe is where cat lovers come to play

The Queen Village spot serves up two of the best things ever — coffee and feline quality time.

ALBERT LEE
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letters@metro.us

It goes without saying that napping at work is usually frowned upon. But if you're one of the kittens living inside the cat lounge at Kawaii Kitty Cafe in Queen Village, you get a free pass. Like clockwork, when the hand hits 3 p.m. every day, owner Kristin Eissler closes up the shop for an hour so the main attraction can, well, take a cat nap. "They're up all day playing and interacting with customers, so this is their time to relax."

Inspired by her frequent visits to Tokyo when she had worked

The cafe is separated fron the cat lounge for health code reasons.

Relighting The Fire

The Fire's longtime booking agent Derek Dorsey has forever fussed over the Girard Avenue live venue where he's bought talent and directed its creative services since 2004. "My goal then — our goal — was not only to put on shows, but to help shape career paths and push local artists with real and genuine aspirations to make it in music to become stars."

The Fire has a renewed vision to go with a new look, all that will be unveiled at an Aug. 13 relaunch party.

"For me, The Fire always had that off-the-grid, no rules apply, rock room vibe," says Philly soul-folkie Ben Arnold who has played that room dozens of time in the past, and will do so again in September with Marah for an undercover surprise show. "The stage is small, dark and minimalist with your dad's old basement rec room bar on the other side. Get 20 people in there and it feels crowded. Plus, the club [is known] to experience unexpected moments."

Some of those moments may seem unplanned (such as Jason Mraz holding his

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Kawaiikittycafe.com

in the fashion industry, Kawaii is her ode to the Japanese culture of kitty cafes with one big exception. "In Japan, there is no health code, so cats would be running around the kitchen. So we wanted to make sure to separate the dining area with the cat lounge." Duly noted.

When paying a visit to Kawaii, it's important to note that you can get too attached to these adorable kittens since they all come from local shelter PAWS (Philadelphia Animal Welfare Society) and are available for adoption. Having only been open for a month, the cafe has already found 11 kittens a permanent home. One of them, Miss Cake, didn't have to purr too hard to get someone's attention. "She just started sitting on my lap and I couldn't resist. I had to adopt her." says Eissler. That makes three altogether with Zissou and Beef, a 17-pound cat, to round out the trio.

The reception in the neighborhood has been ecstatic. "All our time slots have been filled pretty much everyday." says Eissler. Eager customers who wish to visit the cat lounge pay a $10 fee for 60 minutes of playtime which covers the cost of food, toys, liter and medical care. If an hour of time sounds hardly enough, cat lovers can opt for a yearly pass. "This is my fifth time visiting. Me and my husband own two cats and we have a rule to not have cats outnumber the amount of people in the house. Otherwise they start plotting against you. But you can never have enough cats." says Amanda Kindler of Germantown.

Fancy kitty latte art

One thing Kawaii Kitty Cafe is not, however, is a kitty day care. "People have come in on more than one occasion and asked if they can drop off the cat for the day and then pick it up after work," Eissler says.

The cafe may not serve as your personal cat-sitter, but in the eyes of 7-year-old Aliza Leger from Fox Chase, who was visiting the cat lounge with her mother for the first time, it's doesn't have to be. "I think this place is beautiful." Meow!

SHAWNA SMITH

second album release party there after meeting Dorsey), but for the most part, helping position artists who played The Fire back in the day for success was part of the club's purpose. "If we saw people with potential we were there for them," says Dorsey, who arranged label and management look-sees for Philly folkie Amos Lee, Dr. Dog, Santigold (as Santi White) and John Legend (when he was still John Stephens) by holding residencies for these locals. Dorsey made sure key music industry people caught their acts.

In Dorsey's opinion, the music biz and the local scene changed. The money for label advances dried up with its record sales. Philly's scene lost more small local live music clubs than it gained. Even The Fire lost its way. That's why Dorsey bought the club, to help refocus its mission and move forward because he believes the hot spot's past can easily be a part of Northern Liberties' future, to say nothing of Philly in its entirety.

"This was a home base for everyone who came here. No bravado. I think a big part of our success then and now — our draw — is that we never pigeonholed ourself to any one music. We welcome as much hip-hop, funk and jazz as we do folk, rock and punk. That's our calling card." A.D. AMOROSI

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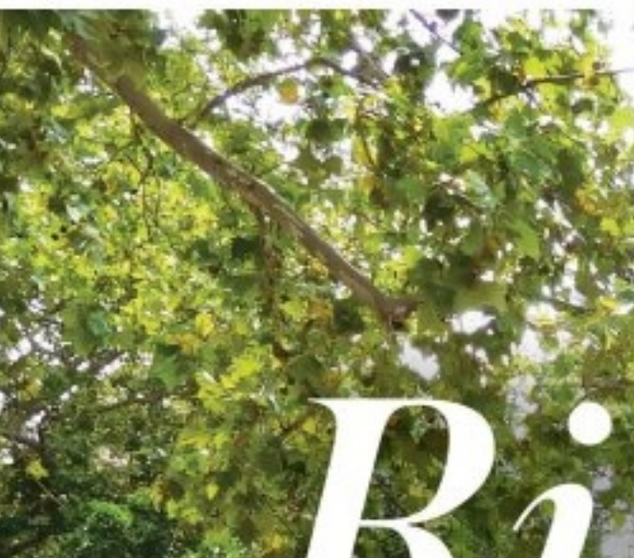

Rittenhouse Square Park ALL PHOTOS STEPH DEFEO

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Metropolitan Bakery

Millennials and families breathe new life into blue blood bastion.

LILY WILLIAMS
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Stretching out from one of the five original green space parks planned by city founder William Penn in the 17th century, the neighborhood of Rittenhouse is one of Philadelphia's most desirable. Rittenhouse Square itself is a leafy oasis amid the high-rise condos, graceful brick townhouses, and trendy restaurants and boutiques that set the tone for this swank district.

According to James Price, a Realtor with Keller Williams, "If you want to live in the center of it all, and are prepared to pay for it, there is no better neighborhood to call home than Rittenhouse Square." He cites new gyms, yoga and spin studios, and vegan and juice bars as evidence that this traditionally conservative, blue-blooded neighborhood has been evolving to meet the expectations of health-conscious, younger residents.

If you want to live in Rittenhouse, however, it will cost you. The median sale price of a single family home is $699,000, while the median sale price of a condo is $438,000.

Rentals can also be pricey — an average of $1,830 a month for a one-bedroom apartment — but come with a front-row seat to Rittenhouse Square's bustling street life and easy access to some of Philadelphia's best dining, shopping and culture. Price also notes a new trend of micro units — converted from hotel rooms and office spaces into 350-500 square foot studios — with rents ranging from $1,000-$1,200 a month.

Although the neighborhood continues to attract millennials and empty nesters, there has also been an upsurge in families. Longtime Rittenhouse resident and owner of neighborhood staple Metropolitan Bakery, Wendy Born, was a Rittenhouse pioneer. Born and her husband raised their children in Rittenhouse in the mid-1990s, a time when other families were fleeing the city. "No one wanted to live in Rittenhouse," she recalls. "After 5 p.m., Walnut Street was empty. People were afraid. Homelessness was out of control. And the Greenfield School wasn't then what it is today."

But all that has changed. While homelessness is still a concern throughout Philadelphia, new city government outreach groups and nonprofits such as Project HOME have been making a real difference in raising awareness and providing housing. And an active Home and School Association has helped transform Greenfield into an attractive option for families who choose to raise their kids in Rittenhouse.

Families are returning to the neighborhood in record numbers. Born recalls that when she was looking to open Metropolitan in 1993, people advised her to find a place with parking. At the time, she was more concerned that the location not have steps, a nod to the empty nester residents of neighboring high rises. "I would never have dreamed," she laughs, "that we'd need doors big enough to accommodate strollers. But we do!"

ON THE MARKET

For sale

1719 Rittenhouse Square
$1,990,000
4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 2 half baths
Always wanted to live steps from storied Rittenhouse Square? This historic property has lots of original character and coveted attached parking. The first floor and finished basement are currently used as office space by a law practice, while the second and third floors are set up as a residence, with many upgrades including an updated full kitchen with a door to a deck.

Contact: *Margaux Genovese Pelegrin, Berkshire Hathaway Fox & Roach, 215-205-2400, margaux.pelegrin@foxroach.com*

For rent

1628 Spruce St., 2R
$1,850 a month
1 bed, 1 bath
This beautiful, spacious one-bedroom apartment has loads of charm. High ceilings, a rare wood burning fireplace and stone mantel are features in the oversized living and dining areas. Fabulous natural light shines through eight floor to ceiling windows, and a bright kitchen comes with stainless appliances and granite counters. The bedroom has a southern bay window overlooking quaint Cypress Street.

Contact: *Jacqui Greenberg, Coldwell Banker Welker Real Estate, 215-235-7800, ukladi@aol.com*

ALL REAL ESTATE PHOTOS PROVIDED

LOCAL HANGS

Tria

Vernick Food & Drink

It's no wonder this destination dining room routinely tops Philly's best-of lists: Food is in chef/owner Greg Vernick's genes. His great-grandfather owned a local butcher and market, and that respect for fresh ingredients shows in the inspired American cuisine at Vernick.
2013 Walnut St., vernickphilly.com

Tria

The original Philly wine bar, Tria serves 35 wines by the glass, divided into categories like zippy reds and lighthearted whites. There's a divine selection of cheeses and light bites (the warm poached black mission figs with gorgonzola and prosciutto di parma is a perennial favorite). If wine's not your thing — and why wouldn't it be?—Tria even serves beer.
123 S. 18th St., triaphilly.com

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New in the neighborhood:

As part of a citywide hotel boom, construction began last month on the dual-brand W Philadelphia and Element Philadelphia. The building, at 15th and Chestnut streets, will add more than 750 guest rooms to the city's expanding store of accommodations, and feature dining and retail spaces as well.

Vernick Food & Drink

This robot helps your

FarmBot takes care of chores like weeding and watering, leaving you to sit back and relax.

DANIEL CASILLAS
Metro World News
letters@metro.us

Green-fingered robots are coming to a garden near you. Yes, the FarmBot Genesis, developed by a team of three based in California, can sow seeds, weed and water with unrivalled precision. The Genesis, which measures 1.5 by 3 meters, slides along tracks installed either side of raised beds. The gizmo can move side to side, up and down, and forward and back, while the main arm of the bot performs the planting, weeding and watering tasks. FarmBot is connected to a web app resembling

The FarmBot at work. PROVIDED

Now you can know exactly how your garden grows. PROVIDED

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garden grow

Farmville, where the user lays out what they want to plant, such as potatoes, peas and artichokes. The robot then spaces these plants at exactly the correct distances and can even monitor weather conditions. Nothing is left to chance. FarmBot founder Rory Aronson explains why this robot will revolutionize gardening.

Why did you decide to create a robot to do the gardening?
The idea came to me when I took an organic agriculture class in college. A local farmer came to talk with us about his latest tractor technology. I thought to myself, "That's cool, but where is the high-tech farming equipment for the home gardener?" FarmBot is my answer to that question.

How does FarmBot work?
FarmBot works like a very large 3-D printer but instead of extruding plastic, it plants seeds, waters them and uses sensors to learn about the soil, plants and environment in order to farm smarter over time.

Could this robot help to plant food in poor places?
Not right now. FarmBot is fairly expensive equipment at this time. Most poor people have lots of time, but not lots of money. Whereas people with more money usually have very little time. Over time we hope to bring the cost of FarmBot down.

How can FarmBot help the environment?
By our analysis, FarmBot-grown veggies emit 30 percent less CO2 than average U.S. veggies bought at the supermarket.

What kind of technological improvements will the crowdsourcing campaign fund?
We will continue to develop new tooling and more software features, as well as reach economies of scale that can help bring the cost down for future versions.

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3) All kids must be available for performance dates and begin rehearsals on October 18, 2016.

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Trey Burton is expected to have a breakout season. GETTY IMAGES

Eagles mighty deep at tight end

No doubt, TE is going to be a strength for the Birds again.

LUKE MILLER
@MetroPhilly
sports@metro.us

Even in 2015, a tumultuous year, the Eagles' tight ends were a bright spot. Zach Ertz rebounded from a concussion suffered in Week 11 against Tampa Bay to finish the season with his four best performances of the year, culminating in a 152-yard day against the Giants.

Ertz' 853 yards receiving were good for seventh in the NFL among tight ends. Between them, Ertz, Brent Celek and Trey Burton combined for 1,305 receiving yards, a total that would have led the league.

While the talent and depth at receiver has been a question mark since the team parted ways with DeSean Jackson and Jeremy Maclin, the quarterbacks can rest assured that they have weapons aplenty in the middle of the field.

Through camp, the Eagles have been experimenting more with three tight end sets to maximize the talent that takes the field. Normally, you'd see that package arise near the goal line to try and pound in the rock.

As offensive coordinator Frank Reich explained Saturday, that's not what the Eagles are limiting themselves to.

"Three-tight end personnel package is a really strong package for us, just because of the versatility of those players. They're all very instinctive route runners; they can all block," he said. "Those corners are used to covering small, fast guys. Now all of the sudden you get someone like Trey Burton or Zach Ertz who are big guys with big catching radiuses. We feel like Zach has a great feel in route running. He just knows how to create leverage; he knows how to use his body; he has a big catch radius. I came in here thinking, 'Hey, Brent is our blocking tight end.' But the guy knows how to run routes. He's a really smart route runner."

That ability to go up and win contested balls will be important for a team focused on maintaining the deep ball as a threat without a speedster like Jackson on the roster. Doug Pederson acknowledged as much Friday.

"I do think there are some guys that can stretch the field, but I also think you do it by scheme," he said. "[It] doesn't always have to be the fastest guy down the field."

Ertz has often been listed as the player most ready to explode the past few seasons, and while his production has been solid, that corner has yet to be turned. This training camp however, a different player, one more familiar for his work on special teams, is taking the limelight.

"Trey [Burton] really has [stood out]. He has made so many big plays out here. That's what you look for," Reich said, "Trey is like a wide receiver out there, and you get him out there and he's got the speed, he's got natural instinctive moves for a tight end."

When asked to comment on undrafted free agents standing out in camp, Pederson immediately jumped to Burton despite his third-year standing.

"Well, he's not an undrafted free agent, but Trey Burton has had a nice camp so far," he said.

Burton was in fact an undrafted free agent in 2014. While he has only three receptions for 54 yards in his NFL career, he did rack up 976 yards receiving at Florida in a college career that involved a bit of everything, including a six-touchdown game.

The Eagles are so talent-rich at tight end, the position group has been mined to bolster two other positions on the roster. Chris Pantale is the leading candidate to be the Birds' first fullback in several years.

"When you play that position, you've got to be physical; you've got to love contact," Reich said. "And he's shown that. You almost have to see it like a tailback, because the tailback is following you most of the time. He's really shown good vision in that."

In addition, rookie Dillon Gordon has transitioned from tight end to offensive guard.

"He's showing all the right signs of a guy who can develop into a legitimate offensive lineman in this league and making that transition," Reich said. "And then mentally, he's extremely sharp. You've got to be to play up front."

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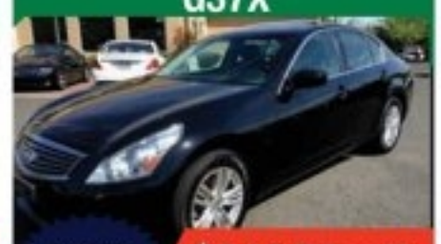
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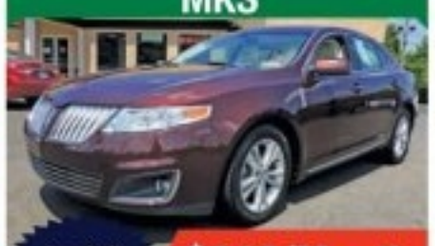
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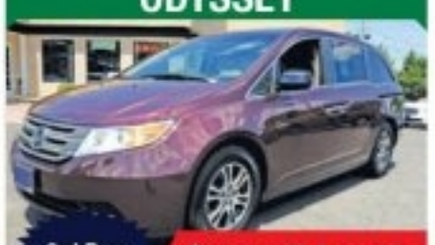
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AVOID BIG-NAME QBS EARLY

Stay away from guys like Cam Newton, at least in the early rounds of your draft. GETTY IMAGES

FANTASY SPORTS

ADAM LEVITAN
alevitan@metro.us

Cam Newton, Aaron Rodgers and Russell Wilson are elite NFL quarterbacks. Using an early- or even midround fantasy pick on them is a high-level mistake.

If you're in a standard one-QB league, which awards at least a half-point for a reception and only four points for a passing TD, employing a late-round quarterback strategy will yield a lot of rewards. First of all, we will stack up depth at positions where injuries are far more frequent and bust rates are far higher. Additionally, quarterback production is relatively predictable compared to other positions. And most important, there is way more supply at the quarterback position than demand: 21 quarterbacks outscored the No. 2 RB (Adrian Peterson) last season and the difference between the No. 24 QB (Ryan Tannehill) vs. the No. 2 QB (Tom Brady) was a mere 5.0 fantasy points per game.

Once you commit to waiting as long as possible for your quarterback, your draft plan will clear up quickly. Here are some QBs available late in drafts with big upside:

We like that

In the 24 games Kirk Cousins has started and finished, he's averaged 279.8 passing yards per game. That would be good for second all-time, behind only Drew Brees. Cousins has gone over 300 yards passing 12 times in his 26 career starts, a rate that's better than Peyton Manning, Brees and Aaron Rodgers. So even though Cousins will throw interceptions, they'll quickly become water under the bridge as he racks up stats via DeSean Jackson, Jordan Reed, Pierre Garcon and Josh Doctson. He's a serious candidate to lead the NFL in passing yards yet he's consistently available in Round 11 or 12 of fantasy drafts.

Remember the running

Marcus Mariota averaged 0.51 fantasy points per dropback last year, eight-best in the league and a better rate than Blake Bortles, Drew Brees, Eli Manning and Ben Roethlisberger. He did it despite averaging just 2.8 rushes per game as the Titans tried to protect their investment. With Mariota's knees healthy and Mike Mularkey taking over on a full-time basis, we can expect more designed and improvised runs from the quarterback position. Mariota also quietly has a very high ceiling with his arm, as evidenced by four 3-TD games among the 12 he started as a rookie last year.

Bob and Brock

Brock Osweiler landed in an ideal situation with the Texans. He'll be coached by QB guru Bill O'Brien, who made Christian Hackenberg look like one of the best players in the country as a true freshman at Penn State and made Brian Hoyer fantasy viable. Osweiler will operate in one of the league's fastest-paced offenses and have serious weaponry with DeAndre Hopkins/Will Fuller/Jaelen Strong.

NFL news

Reports out of Giants camp have two wideouts heading two different directions. Veteran Victor Cruz continues to struggle off the brutal patellar tear he sustained two seasons ago. Meanwhile, rookie Sterling Shepard has been the star of camp as he careens toward an every-down role opposite Odell Beckham. Shepard is a legit candidate for 70+ catches as a rookie.

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0052 - Teneah Howard, 0075 - Nafissatou Kaba, 4032 - Hifeice Stewart, 3137 - Deanene Taylor, 1253 - Francis Oliver, 1183 - Erica Casey, 0038 - Monica Jacobs, 0054 - Lynn Nock, 0178 - Quiana Sansbury, 1121 - Clarissa B. Powell

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Maury Parker 42, Fred Hall 121, Dennis L Sweeting 134, Melanie Caldwell 166, Tanisha Smith 177, Charles Ricks 209, Domonique Wilkins 215, Dorian Strong 217, Oladele Dickerson 279, Jamier Locke 286, Sheena Bines 317, Jason Harrison 318, Richard Chambers Jr 480, Kevin Mease 533, Timothy Bullock 560, Warren P. Leaper 562, Edward McClellan 620, Danielle German 635, Cortez Mclendon 637, Gene Reis Jr 663

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Deserving Decor C/O Lori Finney 2317, Christine Montagna 5079, C. Montagna 5079

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John Inmann III 516, Harry Keenan Jr 147, Harry Keenan Jr 317, Kristopher Green 735, Vernon Skinner 107, Vernon Skinner 112, Allona E Francis 222, Shane Moyer 301

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U-HAUL STORAGE OF ROOSEVELT BLVD
7750 ROOSEVELT BLVD PHILA, PA 19152
(215) 335-2525
AUCTION DATE: 08/17/2016 TIME: 11:00 AM

Jessica Fricker Room# 3615, Millicent Williams Room# 3121, Leatrice Jones Room# 1807, Eric Wigfall Room# 2201, Kimberly Jessie Room# 2609 , Jennifer Smith Room# 3216, Raymond Bland Room# 3956, Louis Stuart Room# 1814, Barbara Dudley Room# 3115, Simon Murphy Room# 4710, Thomas Baum Room# 4013, John Baily Room# 2116, Rachel Johnson Room# 3523, Najada King Room# 1739, Irene Miller Room# 2415

U-HAUL MOVING & STORAGE OF LEVITTOWN
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AUCTION DATE: 08/17/2016 TIME: 1:00 PM

Alicia Yolanda Estevez Room# 2021 Danielle Johnson Room# 1322-24, Tonia Eugenia Broughton Room# 1143, George Hicks Room# 1634, Michael Austin Room# 1528, Jessica Carmen Room# 1018, Debra Winton Room# 1329, Carrie Linton Room# 1313, Lucas Emmons Room# 1218, Tonia Eugenia Broughton Room# 1171, Lathan Andrews Room# 1155, Brandon Stevens Room# 1012, Virgil Pekurar Room# 1004, Mirline Henry Room# 1133, Daniel Vittore Room# 1311, Alicia Saxton Room# 2033, Mary DePaul Room# 1245, Erik Mason Room# 1022, Mary DePaul Room# 1535,Douglas Taylor Room# 1423, Sun-Ho No Room# 1308, April Crump Room# 1501, Latesha Kollie Room# 1229

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New-look Union try to right the ship

The Union have made some major changes to their lineup recently.

JEFF MCMENAMIN
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The Union are hoping Charlie Davies can bring an added boost to their offense. GETTY IMAGES

For the first time all season, the Union (8-8-7) find themselves in a difficult spot. A 2-2 draw to D.C. United (5-8-9) on Saturday tallied their record to just 2-5-2 since the international break. In order to right the ship, the team has made some drastic changes to their lineup to shake things up for the upcoming playoff stretch.

Last Wednesday, the Union signed USMNT midfielder Alejandro Bedoya from Ligue 1's Nantes. A day later, they traded for forward Charlie Davies of the New England Revolution, a former teammate of Bedoya at Boston College. To make room for Davies, the club shipped fan favorite Sebastien Le Toux to the Colorado Rapids in exchange for allocation money.

Dropping to fifth place (31 points) in a tight Eastern Conference, the Union have little room for error with just 11 matches left in the regular season. The team and fan base isn't willing to let their first playoff appearance since 2011 to slip through the cracks.

"It's hard to win," Union manager Jim Curtin said after Saturday's draw. "It's hard to win games in this league, no question about it. Home or away, it's very difficult, and you can see that across the league. … The guys are devastated, but we have to learn from it and move on to the next match and go again against New England."

The Union hope that Bedoya can supply the type of midfield jolt the team had to start the season from Vincent Noguiera, who was surprisingly cut from the Union back on June 16 due to an undisclosed health issue.

The Union were riding a club-record eight-match unbeaten streak before Noguiera's departure and it's evident that his play has been sorely missed on the pitch. Bedoya hopes to put the Union back on the winning track and push them to their ultimate goal.

"In terms of soccer, I've already met the guys, been part of the group," Bedoya said in his introductory news conference. "I think it's a great group of guys. Hopefully I can help them make a push into the playoffs, and make a run into the playoffs. I'm here for three and a half years, and I hope I can make a big difference and pay Philly the respect back that they've given me."

Bedoya has netted 19 goals in his past three seasons at FC Nantes and has made 53 appearances for the USMNT, including nine in 2016.

Davies scored 10 goals in 33 matches for the Revolution last season. In late April, he discovered he had liposarcoma, a rare form of cancer, after a routine MRI. He's missed the past three months receiving treatment and announced on July 30 that the cancer is now in remission. He made his Union debut on Saturday, playing 10 minutes, and discussed his new chapter in Philadelphia following the game.

"Obviously it's a quick transition joining a new club, but I'm very excited," Davies said. "Now it's just about building chemistry. I think my style of play is a little bit different than what they're used to, so I think come playoff time we'll be on the same page and we'll be looking sharp."

He'll have very little time to reflect on his time spent in New England as the Revolution (6-9-8) play host to the Union on Saturday. Saturday's match will air at 7:30 p.m. on The Comcast Network.

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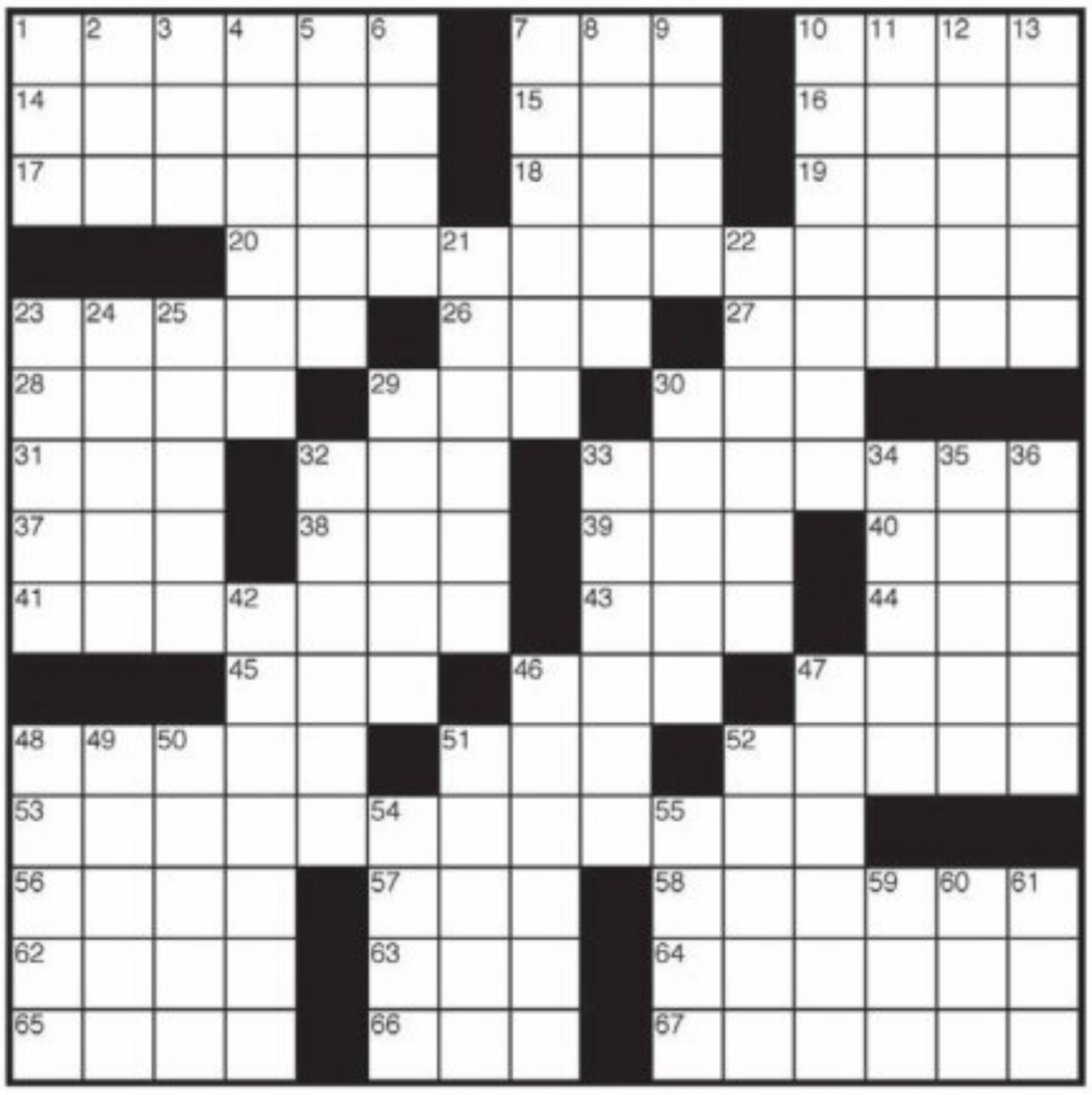
Across

1 Droned
7 Hood's weapon
10 Bank no.
14 Gather
15 PFC mail drop
16 Folk wisdom
17 Obtained
18 Atlas page
19 Lodestones attract it
20 Sublime (2 wds.)
23 Fern foliage
26 Tolerate
27 Cove
28 Gossamer
29 Mail-motto word
30 Summer in Savoie
31 Lime cooler
32 Go over big
33 Bead on a blade
37 KGB counterpart
38 Hail, to Caesar
39 Jackie's second
40 Ending for depart
41 Lit
43 Command to Fido
44 Refrain syllables
45 Feeling lousy
46 Ernesto Guevara
47 Leather-to-be
48 Black as night
51 Future fish
52 Fresco base
53 Rain dance alternative (2 wds.)
56 Tooth anchor
57 Road coating
58 Bowser's ID (2 wds.)
62 Prince Charles' sister
63 XXI times C
64 Come out of the shadows
65 Look intently
66 Mao — -tung
67 Street divider

Down

1 Harpy
2 Bob Hope sponsor
3 Santa Fe hrs.
4 Rebel on the briny
5 Correct
6 Places to winter
7 Stronger-tasting
8 Not touching
9 Pith helmet
10 Adjusted the wheels
11 Pinkish shade
12 Russell — of "Gladiator"
13 Doctrine
21 Cultivated
22 Fool
23 Press agent
24 Half diameters
25 Canoe anagram
29 Gothic romance
30 Hair-raising
32 Like frontier forts
33 Didn't dawdle
34 Holds sway
35 Ph.D. exams
36 Sauce with basil
42 Thinned out
46 Strong-arm
47 Secured a tent
48 Leftover
49 Explorer Byrd's book
50 Memorable trailblazer
51 Widens a hole
52 Elf cousin
54 Bill, briefly
55 Footnote word
59 Numerical prefix
60 Ottoman title
61 Ike's rank



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easy

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		6		1	4	8		
		7		9			4	
	2							

hard

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		3	2					
2							9	
		6				3		
	7							4
					3	7		
	2		9	4	6		1	
8	1	9		7	2			

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Legal or financial contracts are highlighted. Negotiate on your own behalf. An idea you have will change the way you move forward professionally.

Taurus Do whatever feels right. It's a good time to turn an idea into a moneymaker. Make plans to celebrate with someone you love. Playtime will ease stress.

Gemini Proceed with caution. Get information firsthand. If you rely on someone else, you will be disappointed. It's up to you to bring about positive change.

Cancer The lifestyle changes you make will encourage you to get back to the people and activities that you enjoy the most. Set the stage for a romantic interlude or a fun-filled day.

Leo Emotions will surface, causing problems at home if you aren't cognizant of what those around you want. Do your best to please others without ignoring your needs.

Virgo Don't leave anything to chance. Make domestic changes and use your money wisely. Compassion and understanding are sufficient when dealing with outsiders.

Libra Get your chores out of the way and make the adjustments that will ensure you get to do something enjoyable before the end of the day. Don't divulge a secret.

Scorpio Set the standard. Share your intentions and move forward with or without the help of others. Trust and believe in yourself and your talents.

Sagittarius Refuse to let anyone guilt you into doing things you don't want to do. Arguing is a waste of time. If you don't like something or someone, walk away. Work on self-improvement.

Capricorn Listen to any tips or suggestions being offered in order to find a unique way to deal with a perplexing situation. Your timing will be uncanny. Love is in the stars.

Aquarius Keep an open mind, but don't let anyone use emotional manipulation on you. If something doesn't feel right, do your own thing. Personal change will lead to interesting results.

Pisces Someone you have dealt with in the past will be your ticket to a new beginning. Don't hesitate to reconnect and make an offer that's impossible to refuse. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

D	E	N	Y	■	G	L	O	B	E	■	B	E	R	G
A	B	E	E	■	R	O	D	I	N	■	A	L	O	U
M	O	M	A	■	U	S	E	R	S	■	R	H	U	M
S	N	O	R	E	D	■	■	C	U	B	B	I	E	S
■	■	■	N	A	G	■	R	H	E	A	■	■	■	■
Q	U	E	S	T	I	O	N	■	■	D	A	T	E	S
U	N	A	■	■	N	R	A	■	■	D	R	A	M	A
A	C	R	E	A	G	E	■	P	S	Y	C	H	I	C
D	U	L	L	S	■	■	N	E	C	■	■	O	R	K
S	T	E	I	N	■	■	T	R	U	E	N	E	S	S
■	■	■	■	E	T	C	H	■	F	O	E	■	■	■
U	P	A	T	R	E	E	■	■	F	E	W	E	S	T
T	I	L	E	■	S	P	O	I	L	■	A	R	A	B
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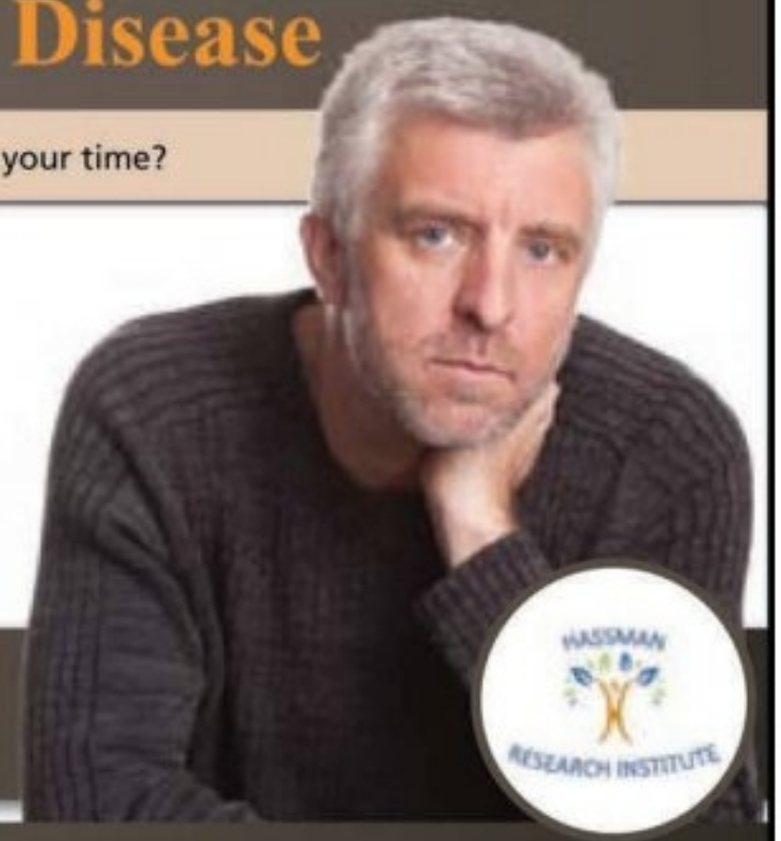

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